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20. — *Canterbury Tales*. By HARRIET LEE. In two volumes. New York : Mason Brothers. 1857. 12mo. pp. 363, 384.

THE first volume of *Canterbury Tales*, by Sophia and Harriet Lee, was issued in 1797, and was succeeded, at brief intervals, by four other volumes. This republication contains the *Tales* written by the younger sister, the superior genius of the two. In structure they resemble more nearly the *Waverley* novels than those of the last century. The style is somewhat overwrought, and occasionally approaches the *Radcliffe* vein; but, with this sole exception, it is characterized by purity, ease, and grace. The plots are highly artistic, and are developed with the skill of a master hand. By far the most striking of the series (and a story of more thrilling and tragic interest can hardly be found) is "*Kruitznier*," from which Lord Byron borrowed the characters, incidents, and much of the language for his drama of "*Werner*."

NEW PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Annual Report to the Executive Committee of the Salem Provident Association, rendered December, 1856. By John Ball, City Missionary. Salem. 1857.

A Special Report of the Commissioner of Public Schools, on Truancy and Absenteeism in Rhode Island, made by Order of the General Assembly, at its May Session, 1856. By Robert Allyn, Commissioner of Public Schools. Providence. 1856.

Seventh Annual Report of the Association for the Relief of Aged and Indigent Females. Boston. 1857.

Twelfth Annual Report of the Minister at Large in Lowell. Lowell. 1857.

Reports of the Trustees and Superintendent of the Butler Hospital for the Insane, presented to the Corporation at their Annual Meeting, January 28, 1857. Providence. 1857.

Annual Report, presented to the American Antislavery Society, by their Executive Committee, at the Annual Meeting, held in New York, May 7, 1856. With an Appendix. New York. 1856.

First Annual Report of the North Middlesex Sunday-School Society, presented at the First Annual Meeting of the Society, held at Groton, Wednesday, October 8, 1856. By Augustus Woodbury. Lowell. 1856.

Fifteenth Annual Report of the Ministry at Large, in the City of Providence, presented at a Public Meeting, held in Westminster Church, Sunday Evening, January 25, 1857. By Edwin M. Stone. Providence. 1857.